

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claims 1-18 (canceled)

1 Claim 19 (currently amended): An ultrasonic diagnostic
2 apparatus moving an ultrasonic transducer within a body
3 cavity of a body to be examined and creating plural
4 chronological tomographic images in accordance with the
5 movement, the apparatus comprising:

6 position information detecting means for detecting
7 position information of the ultrasonic transducer when
8 the tomographic images are obtained;

9 ~~[[auxiliary image creating means]]~~ guide image
10 creating circuit for creating an auxiliary image
11 indicating position information of the tomographic images
12 along a non-linear path of the movement of the ultrasonic
13 transducer based on position information obtained by the
14 position information detecting means and the tomographic
15 images corresponding to the position information; and

16 display control means for displaying the auxiliary
17 image and a tomographic image corresponding to the
18 auxiliary image so as to compare them~~[[τ]]~~;

19 recording means for recording the tomographic images
20 and the position information in association with each
21 other;

22 input means capable of selecting and indicating one
23 tomographic image to be displayed together with the
24 auxiliary image from among the plural tomographic images
25 recorded in the recording means,

26 wherein the ~~[[auxiliary image creating means]]~~ guide
27 image creating circuit creates, during radial scanning by
28 the ultrasonic transducer, the auxiliary image including
29 a plurality of two-dimensional anisotropic ultrasonic
30 image markers arranged along the movement path of the
31 ultrasonic transducer, each of the markers expressing a
32 position and orientation in three dimensional space
33 ~~[[direction]]~~ of a scan plane of the ultrasonic
34 transducer when the tomographic image is obtained,
35 ~~[[and]]~~

36 wherein the ~~[[auxiliary image creating means]]~~ guide
37 image creating circuit further makes a display form of
38 the ultrasonic image marker corresponding to the
39 tomographic image displayed for comparison among the
40 plural ultrasonic image markers different from a display
41 form of the other ultrasonic image markers, and

42 wherein the guide image creating circuit again
43 creates an auxiliary image such that the ultrasonic image
44 marker at a position where the one tomographic image was
45 obtained and the ultrasonic image markers other than the
46 ultrasonic image marker at the position where the one
47 tomographic image was obtained are displayed in different
48 display forms, in conjunction with the selecting of the
49 one tomographic image by the input means after the radial
50 scanning by the ultrasonic transducer.

Claims 20 and 21 (canceled)

1 Claim 22 (previously presented): The ultrasonic
2 diagnostic apparatus according to Claim 19, wherein the

3 display control means causes display of the auxiliary
4 image and a tomographic image corresponding to the
5 auxiliary image on the same screen.

1 Claim 23 (withdrawn): The ultrasonic diagnostic
2 apparatus according to Claim 19, further comprising
3 recording means for relating and recording the
4 tomographic image and the position information,
5 wherein the auxiliary image creating means can
6 create an auxiliary image indicating position information
7 of the tomographic image based on the position
8 information read from the recording means and the
9 tomographic image corresponding to the position
10 information.

1 Claim 24 (previously presented): The ultrasonic
2 diagnostic apparatus according to Claim 19, wherein:
3 the auxiliary image creating means creates plural
4 auxiliary images for indicating position information of
5 the tomographic images from different directions; and
6 the display control means causes display of the
7 auxiliary images on the same screen so as to compare
8 them.

1 Claim 25 (previously presented): The ultrasonic
2 diagnostic apparatus according to Claim 19, wherein the
3 auxiliary image creating means creates the auxiliary
4 image by synthesizing the plural ultrasonic image markers
5 and a locus marker of the ultrasonic transducer, which is

6 created by sequentially connecting the ultrasonic image
7 markers.

1 Claim 26 (currently amended): The ultrasonic diagnostic
2 apparatus according to Claim 19, wherein the ~~[[auxiliary~~
3 ~~image-creating means]]~~ guide image creating circuit
4 superimposes on the ultrasonic image marker a direction
5 marker indicating a specific direction of a
6 ~~[[corresponding]]~~ tomographic image corresponding to
7 ~~[[on]]~~ the ultrasonic image marker.

1 Claim 27 (withdrawn): The ultrasonic diagnostic
2 apparatus according to Claim 19, further comprising input
3 means instructing changing a mode of displaying the
4 tomographic image,
5 wherein the auxiliary image creating means creates
6 an auxiliary image having the ultrasonic image marker
7 displayed in a mode changed in connection with a change
8 in mode of displaying the tomographic images.

Claim 28 (canceled)

1 Claim 29 (previously presented): The ultrasonic
2 diagnostic apparatus according to Claim 19, further
3 comprising input means instructing selecting a
4 tomographic image to be displayed among the plural
5 tomographic images recorded in the recording means,
6 wherein the auxiliary image creating means changes
7 the ultrasonic image marker to be displayed in a

8 different display form in connection with a selection of
9 the tomographic image to be displayed.

1 Claim 30 (previously presented): The ultrasonic
2 diagnostic apparatus according to Claim 19, wherein the
3 auxiliary image creating means creates the auxiliary
4 image including a marker indicating a coordinates system,
5 which is a reference for creating the ultrasonic image
6 markers.

1 Claim 31 (original): The ultrasonic diagnostic apparatus
2 according to Claim 30, further comprising input means
3 instructing changing a direction of displaying the
4 auxiliary image,

5 wherein the auxiliary image creating means changes a
6 direction of displaying the auxiliary image as well as
7 the marker indicating the coordinates system based on the
8 instruction from the input means.

1 Claim 32 (original): The ultrasonic diagnostic apparatus
2 according to Claim 19, wherein the position information
3 detecting means calculates the position information based
4 on a coordinates system with reference to a body to be
5 examined.